PLAINTIFFS' SUPPLEMENTAL EXHIBITS

Document 84

Filed 04/15/2008

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Case 3:07-cv-05800-SC

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## Case 3:07-cv-05800-56 TEIBOCHMEST BOSTR Filed Co. 156 72008 Page 410600

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RELATED CASES

C-07-5800

AMENDED CAMPA MUNUICES

C-07-5926

C-07-6045

SAMUEL CONTI

DATE 2/22/08

Case Number

Judge

Title: CHELSEA, LLC, et al. vs REGAL STONE, LTD., et al.

Attorneys: R.Michael Underhill, William Audet, Bradley O'Brien, Anthony Urie, Adel Nadji, Cory Birnberg, Charles McKinley Michael McShane John Giffin, Julie Kole, George Jones, Walter Coppenrath, Richard Jarashow, Sid Kanazawa, John McGuinn Derek Jacobson, Paul Gruwell,

Deputy Clerk: T. De Martini Court Reporter: Belle Ball

- 1. Plaintiff's Motion for OSC re: Protective Order- Granted in Part
- 2. Status Conference Held

#### ORDERED AFTER HEARING:

The parties can proceed with the class action, and the claimants can also proceed under OPA; however, those proceeding under OPA cannot be forced to sign a release clause terminating claims; also those proceeding under OPA shall not be contacted by defendants to be dissuaded from retaining counsel or abandoning or joining the class action; however, they can be contacted re their desire to proceed under OPA claims procedures.

The OPA procedure is separate and independent from plaintiff's state law claims.

The bond shall remain in effect.

The defendants are ordered to inform those who signed Release Forms that said release <u>does</u> not preclude them from becoming a plaintiff class member, if they so desire.

Plaintiff Government document disclosures are to be turned over to the Defendant with 3 weeks. Plaintiff Chelsea, LLC. Rule 26 disclosures to go forward.

The time and place of the depositions of the 6 crew men to be determined.

Discovery Stayed until 4/25/08.

Pages 1 - 21 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA BEFORE THE HONORABLE SAMUEL CONTI, JUDGE RELATED CASES CHELSEA, LLC, Plaintiff, NO. C 07-5800 SC REGAL STONE, LTD., ET AL., Defendants. SHOGREN LIVING TRUST, ET AL., Plaintiffs, NO. C 07-5926 SC ٧. REGAL STONE, LTD, ET AL., Defendants. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ET AL., Plaintiffs, NO. C 07-6045 SC THE SHIPOWNERS' INSURANCE & GUARANTY COMPANY, LTD., ET AL., Defendants.

San Francisco, California Friday, February 22, 2008

#### TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

(Appearances, next page)

#### APPEARANCES:

For Plaintiff the United States: U.S. Department of Justice Page 1

Civil Division 450 Golden Gate Avenue

7th Floor, Room 5395

San Francisco, California 94102

R. MICHAEL UNDERHILL, ESQ. BY:

Attorney in Charge, Torts Branch West Coast and Pacific Rim Office

U.S. Department of Justice

Environmental and

Natural Resources Division

301 Howard Street

**Suite 1050** 

San Francisco, California 94105

BRADLEY R. O'BRIEN, ESQ. BY:

Senior Attorney

For Plaintiff the United States Department of the Interior:

office of the Solicitor San Francisco Field Office

1111 Jackson Street

Suite 735

San Francisco, California 94607

CHARLES C. MCKINLEY, ESQ. BY: Assistant Field Solicitor

For Plaintiff Shoberg Living Trust:

Law Office of Cory A. Birnberg

703 Market Street

Suite 600

San Francisco, California 94103-2114

CORY A. BIRNBERG, ESQ. BY:

Law Offices of Anthony M. Urie For Plaintiff Chelsea:

7545 15th Avenue N.W.

Seattle, Washington 98117

ANTHONY M. URIE, ESQ. BY:

(Appearances continued, next page)

#### APPEARANCES, CONTINUED:

For Plaintiff Chelsea: Audet & Partners

221 Main Street

**Suite 1460** 

San Francisco, California 94105

WILLIAM M. AUDET, ESQ. BY:

MICHAEL MCSHANE, ESQ. ADEL A. NADJI, ESQ.

For Defendants Regal Stone, Cosco Busan, Fleet Management, and Cosco Busan in rem:

Keesal, Young & Logan Four Embarcadero Center

Suite 1500

San Francisco, California 94111

BY: JOHN D. GIFFIN, ESQ. JULIE A. KOLE, ATTORNEY

For Defendant Shipowners' Insurance and Guaranty Company:

McGui reWoods

1345 Avenue of the Americas

Seventh Floor

New York City, New York 10105-0106

RICHARD L. JARASHOW, ESQ. BY:

and

McGuireWoods

1800 Century Park East

Eighth Floor

Los Angeles, California

SIDNEY K. KANAZAWA, ESQ. BY:

For Defendant John Cota:

Coppenrath & Associates

400 Oceangate

Suite 700

Long Beach, California 90802 WALTER G. COPPENRATH, ESQ. GEORGE N. JONES, ESQ. BY:

Reported By:

BELLE BALL, CSR, RMR, CRR

10:12 A.M.

Official Réporter

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2008

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PROCEEDINGS

THE CLERK: No. 5, related cases Civil 07-5800,

5 Chelsea, Limited versus Regal Stone, et al.; Civil 07-5926,

Shogren Living Trust, et al. versus Regal Stone, et al.; and 6

civil 07-6045, United States of America, et al. versus

Shipowners' Insurance and Guaranty Company, Limited, et al. 8

9 Counsel, please remember to state your appearance

10 before you talk.

MR. GIFFIN: Good morning, Your Honor. John Giffin 11

12	022208-Chelsea appearing in the Chelsea, LLC matter for the Defendant, Regal
13	Stone, Limited. And also for the vessel in rem, Cosco Busan.
14	And also appearing in the United States versus Cosco Busan for
15	Fleet Management, and also for the Cosco Busan in rem.
16	And Julie Kole of my office is also making an
<b>17</b> .	appearance for those Defendants, Your Honor.
18	THE COURT: Okay.
19	MR. UNDERHILL: Good morning, Your Honor. Mike
20	Underhill on behalf of the United States in the U.S. versus
21	Cosco Busan, et al. case. And I've got some other folks with
22	me that can introduce themselves.
23	THE CLERK: Could you please pull that microphone
24	closer to you? Thank you.
25	MR. O'BRIEN: Bradley O'Brien on behalf of the United
	5
1 .	States.
2	MR. MCKINLEY: Charles McKinley, Department of the
3.	Interior.
4	MR. JARASHOW: Good morning, Your Honor. I'm Richard
5	Jarashow from McGuireWoods, for in USA versus Cosco Busan,
6	for the Defendants Shipowners' Insurance and Guaranty Company.
7	And my partner, Sid Kanazawa from McGuireWoods is with me as
8	well.
9	MR. COPPENRATH: Good morning, Your Honor. Walter
10	Coppenrath, in the USA versus Cosco Busan, for Defendant John
11	Cota.
1.2	MR. BIRNBERG: Good morning, Your Honor. Cory
13	Birnberg for the Shogren related case, Shogren Living Trust.
14	MR. URIE: Good morning, Your Honor. Anthony Urie
15	for the Plaintiffs in the Chelsea K. matter.
16	. MR. AUDET: Good morning, Your Honor. William Audet Page 4

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17	for the Plaintiffs, Chelsea.
18	MR. MCSHANE: Good morning, Your Honor, Michael
19	McShane for Chelsea Plaintiffs,.
20	MR. NADJI: Good morning, Your Honor. Adel Nadji for
21	Chelsea Plaintiffs.
22	THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. It
23	looks like the bar convention is now in order, so you might as
24	well sit down.
25	As I see the case, the issue before me this morning is
	6
1	whether or not the OPA procedure should go forward, and whether
2	or not the class action what's the status of the class action
3	with reference to the OPA process. And whether that OPA is
4	proper or not.
5	so, I've read all of your papers, at length, and
6	reviewed the matter. And if there's anything you have to say,
7	other than what's on the papers, I'll be very happy to hear it.
8	MR. UNDERHILL: Thank you. Mike Underhill on behalf
9	of the United States, Your Honor.
10	We conferred with the various defense counsel in the
11	U.S. case. And we tried to separate into what we can agree on,
12	what we disagree on, what we can agree to disagree on. And I
13	think to make our life easier and the Court's life easier, we
14	have come up with some proposals.
15	First of all, I understand that Mr. Giffin and I, and
16	Captain Cota's attorneys as well, are going to be filing motions
17	to dismiss in the federal case.
18	And what we would propose, and I think we are in
19	agreement on this, is that the motion be heard on April 18th of
20	this year, if that's possible with the Court. We haven't seen

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21 the motion yet. we assume it's going to be substantive and lengthy, so 22 23 we would like to give all parties and the Court time to look at 24 it. 25 THE COURT: Uh-huh. MR. UNDERHILL: If we set it out to April 18th, I 1 2 think that also gives us some other things to work with. Mr. Giffin has represented --3 THE COURT: What is the motion on April 18th? 4 MR. GIFFIN: It will be a motion to dismiss the 5 United States' claim in its entirety, on the basis that the 6 U.S. doesn't have the authority to go ahead at this point in 7 8 time. They are required by the OPA 90 -- the mandate of OPA 9 90 to submit their claims to the claims office, and have their 10 11 claims evaluated by them --12 THE COURT: I tell you, we have a lot of discussion, .13 a lot of attorneys here. I'll tell you what I'm going to do. 14 I'll save everybody a lot of time, a lot of argument. Because this thing could turn out to be a federal case, you know, and 15 16 that's not going to happen. All right, I've reviewed the statutes, and the case 17 And the Court finds that the parties -- and I'm not going 18 to give you a written order, so you had better listen to this --19 20 the parties can proceed with the class action, and the claimants 21 can also proceed under OPA. 'However, those proceedings under OPA cannot -- those, 22 those members or claimants proceeding under OPA cannot be forced 23

> Also, those proceedings under OPA shall not be Page 6

to sign a release clause terminating their claims.

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1	contacted by Defendants to be dissuaded from retaining counsel
2	or abandoning or joining the class action. However, they can be
3	contacted, the claimants can be contacted with reference to
4	their desire to proceed under the OPA claims.
, 5	So, in other words, they can be contacted to proceed
6	under the OPA claims, but they can't be told not to retain a
7	lawyer, or not to seek counsel in any way pertaining to the
8	matter.
9	The OPA procedure is separate and independent from the
10	state's from the Plaintiffs' state law claims. The OPA
11	procedure is separate and independent from the state law claims.
12	The bond shall remain in effect.
13	The Defendants are ordered to inform those who signed
14	release forms that said release forms does not preclude them
15	from becoming a class member if they so desire. And, that's the
16	order.
17	Now, if you have got anything else that you would like
18	me to hear about, I would be happy to hear it.
19	MR. GIFFIN: Your Honor, I want to make sure that I
. 20	understand the Court's order, though. The people who submit
21	OPA 90 claims can sign releases.
22	THE COURT: No. They can get their money from OPA,
23	but they still become members of the class action.
. 24	MR. GIFFIN: So even if their claims are settled
25	THE COURT: If their claims are what?
	9

1 MR. GIFFIN: Settled and paid, they can still -2 THE COURT: Well, then they wouldn't be a member of

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	022208-Chelsea
3 -	the class. They wouldn't file in the class action.
4	MR. GIFFIN: But, Your Honor, I think we have to have
5	some
6	THE COURT: I'm doing it this way. You can argue all
7	day. There are two separate avenues here. One is the OPA, and
8	the other is the class action.
9	If they want to go to OPA, they can do it. But they
10	don't sign any releases to release any of their liability. If
11	they want to, after they have gone to the OPA and received their
12	money, if they want to join the class, they can. And, and those
13	that don't want to go to OPA can go to the class action.
14	That's the law. That's what the law so far in my
<b>1</b> 5	little court here is. And if you don't like it, you go
16	someplace else. But that's what I'm saying. I'm not going to
17	say it any more.
18	MR. GIFFIN: I'm not trying to argue with the Court.
19	THE COURT: I'm not going to argue, either. I'm
20	telling you what it is. And that's what it's going to be. You
21	may like it, you may not like it. That's fine.
22.	MR. GIFFIN: I'm only trying to understand the
23	Court's ruling. And
24	THE COURT: The Court's ruling do you want me to
25	say it again?
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MR. GIFFIN: Your Honor, may I just ask the question?

When we -- whenever the claims agency pays money to a claimant,

they would need to get some acknowledgement from the claimant

that they have been paid.

THE COURT: That is the normal effect, I understand

that. But not in this case, and in this situation. It's not

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going to happen that way.

MR. GIFFIN: So they can't --THE COURT: From what I understand of the affidavits. 9 10 some of your people have been going around telling people not to get a lawyer, not to participate in the class action, "Take 11 1.2 the money we are going to give you, and you have no more -- we 13 have no more responsibility for you." 14 If they -- there's no obligation for them to do the QPA procedure. There's no obligation, whatsoever. They can 15 16 either do it or not do it. But if they do it, none of their 17 rights are going to be terminated by any assignment that they 18 have in this court. They still have rights. And if they were 19 to exercise those rights, fine. If they don't, that's fine 20 also. 21 MR. GIFFIN: But, of course, if they're paid their . 22 claims, and their claims are resolved --23 THE COURT: Then if they paid their claim, and they 24 happen to join the class action, they're not going to get any 25 more money.

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But if it should be a situation where they are 1 2 entitled to something else, then they would get their claim 3 money, and they would get what else is due later on. 4 MR. GIFFIN: Thank you, Your Honor. 5 THE COURT: No, thank you. Anything else? 6 MR. UNDERHILL: Yeah, I don't want to do the 7 Defendants' work for them, but in fairness to my colleagues 8 over there and their clients, Your Honor probably has read in 9 the paper, as I have, that there is a criminal investigation 10 that is proceeding. And I know that Mr. Giffin, his firm has 11 attorneys that represent certain parties in the criminal

12	022208-Chelsea investigation. And likewise, with respect to Captain Cota.
13	we, on the civil side, for obvious reasons Stacey
14	Geis and her folks are handling the criminal investigation. we
15	in the civil side aren't privy to what's going on, what their
16	timeline is. I've tried to find out if there is a timeline, and
17	I have been politely or maybe not so politely told that none
18	of my business. And I have proceeded from that point.
19	What we would suggest is that in fairness to the
20	defense, and I'm talking about civil and criminal, so they don't
21	get put in a bind to have to be forced to either answer my
22 .	questions or at or at least my questions in deposition, and
23	either take the Fifth, which is their right and we respect
24	their right or else be put in a position to have the Court
25	draw inferences if they do take the Fifth Amendment right, and I
	12
1	don't have the right to my evidence.
2	What we would propose is a reasonable extension, I
3	would suggest until some time mid-April, to continue the case
4	management conference, at least in the federal case. By that
5	time, hopefully, a decision will have been made.
6	THE COURT: Fine, fine.
7	MR. UNDERHILL: Okay.
8	THE COURT: Yeah, you don't need to go any further.
9	What date do you want?
10	MR. UNDERHILL: We suggested April 18th, which I
11	think is a Friday.
12	THE COURT: Is that a law and motion date?
13	THE CLERK: April 25th.
14	THE COURT: April 25th.
15	MR. UNDERHILL: Very good, Your Honor. The one

caveat to that, and this is one of those things where my  $_{\mbox{\footnotesize{Page}}}$  10

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17	colleague Mr. Giffin and I probably have to agree to disagree,
18	Mr. Giffin has represented this to me and I accept it, that
19	there are six crewmen from the Cosco Busan who apparently are
20	detained in the U.S. pursuant to material witness warrants.
21	These are, I presume, the main witnesses who have the
22	only testimony, other than Captain Cota, about what went on
23	aboard the Cosco Busan on the day she hit the bridge.
24	I don't want to lose those witnesses. They are
25	non-U.S. citizens, not resident aliens. Once they leave the
	1:
1	U.S., they are beyond my subpoena power, and the Court's
2	jurisdiction.
3	THE COURT: Why don't you take their deposition?
<b>4</b>	MR. UNDERHILL: That's what I'd propose. But this is
5	where we agree to disagree. I would prefer, with the Court's
6	permission, what I would like to do is the following and
7.	I've suggested this to Mr. Giffin is that I don't want to
8	step on anybody's criminal rights or criminal toes.
9	THE COURT: Are they Defendants?
10	MR. UNDERHILL: I don't know.
11	MR. GIFFIN: We don't know. They have been detained
12	by the Government, and are being held by the Government. And
13	the Government hasn't made a decision that they are going to
14	charge anybody or not charge anybody, so they each are
15	individually represented by counsel.
16 .	THE COURT: Well, if they're detained well, just
17	as soon as you find out whether they're going to be charged or
18	not, you take their deposition.

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if you could maybe give us some assistance.

MR. UNDERHILL: With one possible twist, Your Honor,

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21	What I would suggest, in order to keep the civil and
22	criminal lines completely separate and clean, apart from each
23	other, is that when we are informed that whatever obligations
24	they have to the criminal case and the criminal court are
25	resolved, whether Rule 15 criminal depositions are taken, now
	14
.1	they can leave the country, at that point we take their
2	deposition.
3	If it goes to trial, they testify, then they are read
4	to leave because they are done in the criminal case, at that
5	point we take it. Because I think that I'm trying to satisf
6	their concerns, excuse me, that we don't do discovery on the
7	civil case to try to bootstrap the criminal. That's not my
8	intent.
9	I just want to make sure that this Court has the
10	testimony of six or seven of the main witnesses to the accident
11	if we do motion practice for trial.
12	So, that's what I would ask, and hopefully with
13	Counsel's assistance, we can do it voluntarily. If not, I'll
14	probably come back, asking the Court for its assistance, to make
15	sure that they don't leave the country without their deposition
16	being taken.
17	THE COURT: Fine. Is that satisfactory?
18	MR. GIFFIN: Yes. And we would like to make sure
19	that discovery is stayed, so that we can process the claims
20	that are made. I mean, that's the whole idea of OPA, is that
21	the claims to be made, they should be submitted, and then they
22	have 90 days to be either accepted or rejected.
23	THE COURT: Yes.
24	MR. GIFFIN: All right, so then discovery will be
25	stayed until the claims are submitted.
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MR. UNDERHILL: No objection here, Your Honor.  MR. AUDET: Your Honor, this is Bill Audet for the
civil Plaintiffs, civil class action Plaintiffs.
I just want to make sure we are clear, I didn't quite
understand, are they are they asking for a stay of my class
action or the federal civil case? There's a big difference.
I just want to clarify, because that's the U.S.
Attorney's Office
THE COURT: Are they inextricably intermingled?
MR. AUDET: In a way, Your Honor. I'm not against
the stay if that's what Your Honor wants to do.
THE COURT: Well, you are not against it? Well,
then, we'll do have it.
MR. AUDET: Okay.
MR. GIFFIN: All we want to do is get the claims and
pay them.
THE COURT: I have enough trouble with arguments, let
alone people who agree to things.
MR. AUDET: Okay.
THE COURT: Okay fine, great. Anything else?
MR. KANAZAWA: This is Sid Kanazawa, for the
Shipowners' Insurance, SIGCO. We are the guarantor that had
the certificate of financial responsibility when the ship came
into the port.
One of the issues in this case is whether the amount

1 that has already been expended in terms of the cleanup and all

that has exceeded our bond. And if it has, then we are

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#### 022208-Chelsea 3 basically out of this case. The bonds issued in the civil case, how 4 THE COURT: 5 much was that? MR. AUDET: Your Honor, our bond in the civil class 6 Ź action was \$20 million. MR. UNDERHILL: And ours was 79 and a half million. 8 9 Mr. Kanazawa is actually talking about a separate guarantee, other than the two letters of undertaking. 10 MR. KANAZAWA: Yeah. This is, under OPA 90, you have 11 to have a certificate of financial responsibility when you come 12 into port. And that's what we are talking about here. 13 MR. UNDERHILL: Can I make your life simple for you? 14 15 MR. KANAZAWA: Yes. MR. UNDERHILL: Okay. We think -- we are trying to 16 find out on the federal side, we think that Mr. Kanazawa and 17 18 Mr. Jarashow's client has -- for legal reasons, they likely don't have any further obligations in this case. And we're 19 trying to make sure, before we sign off on a dismissal. But we 20 think that's going to be the case. 21 What we would like to do, Your Honor, assuming that 22 our due diligence bears out that they shouldn't be in the case 23 any more, because whatever amounts that they would have been 24 obligated for have already been spent, we would propose to amend . 25 17 the complaint, drop these folks, SIGCO, as a Defendant. 1

2 Furthermore, we would also propose, and we have

discussed it with Mr. Giffin, haven't received agreement, to

4 amend the complaint to add a judicially civil penalty cause of

5 action. And we would hope to do that at the same time.

6 THE COURT: Fine.

7 MR. GIFFIN: Well, the only thing, Your Honor, if you Page 14

- 8 amend the complaint, then we have to review the amendment and
- 9 determine whether we are going to bring a motion to dismiss
- 10 that cause of action as well.
- 11 MR. UNDERHILL: I can't tell you what to do.
- 12 MR. GIFFIN: Well, I'm just talking about the hearing
- 13 date.
- 14 MR. UNDERHILL: Let me suggest, we file the
  - 15 amendment, Your Honor, and Mr. Giffin can figure out with his
- 16 clients what they need to do.
- 17 THE COURT: You file the -- the procedure is you file
- 18 the amendment. If he wants to file a motion, you file a
- 19 motion. And I hear it.
- 20 MR. GIFFIN: And then, then we will just -- the
- 21 discovery will be stayed until the motion is heard?
- THE COURT: Yes.
- MR. UNDERHILL: Yes.
- 24 MR. GIFFIN: The other thing is we have asked the
- 25 civil Plaintiffs submit their Rule 26 disclosures so that we

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- 1 can see their claims, and resolve them if at all possible.
- THE COURT: What is the problem?
- 3 MR. AUDET: Your Honor, I don't have a problem with
- 4 Rule 26. He is attempting to put a little bit of a different
- 5 spin on Rule 26. We don't have a problem. I just thought he
- 6 wanted a stay.
- 7 If there is going to be a Rule 26 disclosure -- ours
- 8 is due I believe Monday or Tuesday, I don't have the exact date.
- 9 We will supply Rule 26 disclosure for the named Plaintiffs.
- 10 THE COURT: Can you work it out with them?
- MR. AUDET: We tried. We have a hard time working

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022208-Chelsea together lately. So, I'll do my best. 12 13 THE COURT: What is the problem? He has the 14 disclosures. Do you want to give them? **1**5 MR. AUDET: Yeah. 16 MR. GIFFIN: All we want is the disclosures. We 17 don't want anything else. We just want them to comply with the 18 Rule and provide the Rule 26 disclosures. 19 THE COURT: Does this prejudice you in any way? 20 MR. AUDET: Oh, no, I don't have a problem with doing 21 it. He's got a different interpretation. 22 THE COURT: You have got to make him happy. He's not 23 too happy up to now. 24 MR. AUDET: Your Honor, I have no problem next week 25 giving what we believe the appropriate Rule 26 disclosure. We 19 1 have no problem. 2 THE COURT: okav. 3 MR. GIFFIN: Thank you. Your Honor. 4 MR. UNDERHILL: One last thing. I can't sit down. 5 We will try to get our disclosures too. John, could 6 we have a reasonable amount of time to do the document 7 disclosures? We are talking about a large amount of documents. 8 MR. GIFFIN: Just tell me what a reasonable amount of time is. 9 10 MR. UNDERHILL: Three weeks? 11 MR. GIFFIN: Sure. 12 MR. UNDERHILL: Okay. And -- let's leave it at that. 13 Thank you. 14 Thank you. MR. GIFFIN: Anything else anybody would like to say? 15 THE COURT:

All right. We will see you then -- what is our next status
Page 16

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17	date, then? I always like to give a status date.
18	THE CLERK: April 25th.
19	THE COURT: Do you want to give April, 25th as a first
20	status date, you tell us what's going on at that time, and what
21	you want to do? And by that time, the Government ought to make
22	up their mind what they're going to do with the Defendants.
23	MR. GIFFIN: That's fine. That's when we are
24	planning on having a hearing on our motion.
25	THE COURT: Okay. Well, we will have the same thing
	20
1	as a status conference on that date.
2	MR. GIFFIN: Thank you, Your Honor.
3	THE COURT: All right.
4	(Proceedings concluded at 10:32 a.m.)
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022208-Chelsea CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER I, BELLE BALL, Official Reporter for the United States Court, Northern District of California, hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings in Case No. C 07-5800, Chelsea, LLC v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al., and related cases, were reported by me, a certified shorthand reporter, and were thereafter transcribed under my direction into typewriting; that the foregoing is a true record of said proceedings as bound by me at the time of filing. The validity of the reporter's certification of said transcript may be void upon disassembly and/or removal from the court file. Belle Ball, CSR 8785, RMR, CRR Friday, February 22, 2008 

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## Audet & Partners, LLP

Attorneys-at-Law

221 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1460 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105 TELEPHONE: 415.568.2555 FACSIMILE: 415.568.2556

TOLL FREE: 800.965.1461

February 22, 2008

Via Email/Facsimile

John Giffin KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN Suite 1500 Four Embarcadero Center San Francisco, CA 94111 Email: john.giffin@kyl.com

Re:

Cosco Oil Spill Litigation
Federal Case No. C-07-5800

Dear John:

In light of the Court's ruling of February 22, 2008, we need to reach an agreement on the wording of the notice sent to all potential or actual claimants. I suggest the following language for the initial application, the 'advance' application and any 'release' sent out by Hudson and/or the Defendants (and any other relevant communications to Class Members):

"Pursuant to the Federal Court's order, please be advised that a class action lawsuit is pending in federal court relating to the Cosco Oil Spill. The attorney representing the Class Action Plaintiffs in that case is William M. Audet, et al., of Audet & Partners, LLP, 221 Main Street, Suite 1460, San Francisco, CA, 94105, Telephone: 415.982.1776. Please also be advised that you have the right to be represented by your own attorney or the class action plaintiffs' attorney William Audet. You are not obligated to proceed with the OPA claim process in order to obtain a recovery in the class action."

John Giffin February 22, 2008 Page 2

If you have different language, please let me know. I assume that you will also send a corrective notice to those who have already submitted a claim form or request for an advance, and also delete the current "release" language in the current forms. Please provide my office with a draft of the corrective notice before disseminating to the Class Members.

Very truly yours,

William M. Audet, Esq.

## Audet & Partners, LLP

Attorneys-at-Law

221 Main Street, Suite 1460 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105 TELEPHONE: 415.568.2555 FACSIMILE: 415.568.2556 TOLL FREE: 800.965.1461

www.audetlaw.com

February 28, 2008

Via Email/Facsimile

John Giffin KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN **Suite 1500** Four Embarcadero Center San Francisco, CA 94111 Email: john.giffin@kyl.com

Re:

Cosco Oil Spill Litigation

Federal Case No. C-07-5800

Dear John:

I have your letter of February 26, 2008 regarding Defendants apparent refusal to comply with Judge Conti's order regarding the class action process and notification of OPA applicants of their right to proceed in the OPA process without waiving any class action remedies/recoveries. Your blanket refusal to comply, in whole or in part, with the spirit and letter of Judge Conti's ruling is puzzling, to say the least. If you do not find our proposed language acceptable, please advise us what and how you intend to advise class members regarding their rights and the Court's order.

If we do not hear from you by Tuesday, March 4, 2008, we shall assume that you will maintain the position outlined in your letter and proceed accordingly.

Very truly yours,

William M. Audet, Esq.

MW. Role

## Audet & Partners, LLP

Attorneys-at-Law.

22 I MAIN STREET, SUITE 1460 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105 TELEPHONE: 415.568.2555 FACSIMILE: 415.568.2556 TOLL FREE: 800.965.1461 www.audetlaw.com

April 8, 2008

<u>Via Email</u>

Annie M. Moriarty, Esq. KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN Suite 1500 Four Embarcadero Center San Francisco, CA 94111 Email: annie.moriarty@kyl.com

Re:

Cosco Oil Spill Litigation
Federal Case No. C-07-5800

Dear Counsel:

We have your letter and requests. First, as I have twice now advised you, the fact that a defendant no longer owns the vessel does not automatically equate to no liability under maritime law. Second, you continue to provide bits and pieces of information, demand dismissal and threaten Rule 11 sanctions. The threat of sanctions does not assist in the process and is in fact counter productive. Third, as this is a class action, in order to dismiss a party, under Rule 23, more than just a dismissal is required. We need to seek court approval.

With the above said, I will pass on the latest information to my co-counsel and we will discuss the issue and respond shortly. In the meantime, we will at least need you to agree to a class tolling agreement with respect to any dismissed defendant. Please confirm that this is acceptable — as I believe the court will prefer at least that amount of protection for the class claims.

Very truly yours,

William M. Audet, Esq.

WW. Ante

cc: Anthony Urie

## Audet & Partners, LLP

Attorneys-at-Law

221 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1460 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105 TELEPHONE: 415.568.2555 FACSIMILE: 415,568,2556 TOLL FREE: 800.965.1461 www.audetlaw.com

April 8, 2008

Via Email

Annie M. Moriarty, Esq. KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN **Suite 1500** Four Embarcadero Center San Francisco, CA 94111 Email: annie.moriarty@kyl.com

Re:

Cosco Oil Spill Litigation

Federal Case No. C-07-5800

Dear Counsel:

As a follow up to my earlier letters on this topic, please send my office a current copy of exactly what information, by way of notice or claim form or otherwise, to show compliance with Judge Conti's Order of February 22, 2008. Despite my prior requests, we have yet to be provided a copy of this document or set of documents.

Very truly yours,

William M. Audet, Esq.

WW. Agas

cc: Anthony Urie

Filed 04/15/2008

#### LAW OFFICES

### KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN

A PROSESSIONAL CORPORATION SUITE 1500

JOBEPH A. WALGH II
HERBERT H. RAY. JR.\*†
JODI S. COHEM
PHILIP R. LEMPRIERE\*\*
JULIE L. TAYLOR
FRACEY MYEES CARRETT
JON W. ZINKES\*
OCUGLAS R. DAVIS\*\*
AND D. MEREDITH
A. ROLX
RAYNO D. PIPER
JOHN L. BASALA
ESTHER B. CHO

FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO. CA 94111 (415) 398-6000 PACSIMILE:

. (415) **981-018**0 www.kyl.qoza

April 11, 2008

CLEN E. PIPER
CATHARINE M. MORISBET?
CHRISTOPHIDR A. ATECHER
DIANA J. COBURN
AUDETTE FAUL MORALES
SCOTT E. FUNGLIE
MELANIE I. ROWEN
BENNAMIN W. WHITE
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Jabun R. Lindbay
John Cox
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David A. Tono
David A. Tono
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Nicolab J. Vikotromi
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James P Ruind, Jr.
Annie M. Korlarty
Nicole S. Bussi

NOBERT H. LOGAN
RICHARD A. APPELBAUM W
REAR ADSMIAL, U.S.O. (REA)
ELIZAMETH A. RENDRICK
RICHARD L. LANDES

Samuel A. Keebal. Jr.
Stephen Young
Michael M. Glebb
Peter R. Boutin
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Terry Robb
John D. Guyen
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Neal Scott Rodb
Ben Ruten

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OF COURSEL

BANDOR K. MAYUGA

AUMU HAVID W TAYLOR F

KEYN HARRISS 1

RICK FRANCES L. KEBLER

■ Admitted in Marinaton

1 Admitted in Warinaton

2 Admitted in Warinaton

3 Admitted in Alarka & Galifornia

3 Admitted in Alarka & Galifornia

3 Admitted in Charist of Columbia ≠ Florida

4 Admitted in Circuit of Columbia ≠ Florida

4 Registered Foreign Lawyer With 1HE LAW & Godiety

of hong kong a admitted in New York d solicitor admitted in England, Waler and Northern Ireland ALL OTHERS AUMITTED IN CAUFORNIA

### Via Facsimile - 415-568-2556 and U.S. Mail

William M. Audet, Esq. Audet & Partners, LLP 221 Main Street, Suite 1460 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

USDC Case No. C-07-5800-SC

Our File No.: 2418-229

Dear Mr. Audet:

We are writing to respond your letter, dated April 8, 2008, in which you indicated that you would discuss the issue of whether you would agree to voluntarily dismiss NSB Neiderlbe ("NSB") and Conti Cairo KG ("Conti Cairo") with your co-counsel.

You continue to mistakenly assert, without any supporting authority, that even though NSB and Conti Cairo did not own or manage the COSCO BUSAN at the time of the spill, they are not absolved from liability under maritime law. We are unaware of any legal basis, even theoretical, that would support such a contention under the instant circumstances. If you are aware of any supporting authority we ask that you immediately bring it to our attention.

You also appear to be concerned that because this is a class action we need to seek court approval even for a voluntary dismissal. It is our experience that obtaining court approval for a voluntary dismissal is not a difficult process. Furthermore, upon receiving documents (which we have previously provided to you) showing that NSB and Conti Cairo were not owners or managers of the COSCO BUSAN at the time of the spill, we are confident that the Court will readily approve the dismissal of these improper parties. Of course, NSB and Conti Cairo will fully

Page 36 of 90

William M. Audet, Esq. April 11, 2008 Page 2

Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

USDC Case No. C-07-5800-SC

Our File No.: 2418-229

cooperate in this process. As far as agreeing to a "class tolling agreement", we assume that you mean that should Plaintiffs voluntarily dismiss NSB and Conti Cairo they would do so without prejudice. We would appreciate clarification.

You have also previously relayed your concern that the United States Coast Guard was looking into NSB and Conti Cairo's involvement into the spill. In fact, on March 12, 2008, Conti Cairo received a letter from Commander P.D. Thorne, United States Coast Guard. In that letter, Commander Thorne stated that documents taken from the vessel indicated that Conti Cairo was the COSCO BUSAN's owner, operator, or managing operator. However, in a subsequent letter, dated April 1, 2008, Commander Thorne recognized that Conti Cairo was a former owner of the vessel and that he sent the previous letter to Conti Conti in error. He apologized for the confusion and updated the Coast Guard's files. We have enclosed these letters, with the sensitive portions redacted, and trust that they will provide you will further assurance that NSB and Conti Cairo should be dismissed from this lawsuit.

We intend to bring to the Court's attention at the upcoming Case Management Conference the fact that we have provided you with documentation and declarations proving that NSB and Conti Cairo are not proper parties to this lawsuit. We will also advise the Court that if Plaintiffs do not voluntarily dismiss NSB and Conti Cairo, Defendants will specially appear in order to file a Motion to Dismiss.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss these matters further.

Very truly yours, Annie Moriarty

Annie Moriarty anniemoriary@kyl.com

Filed 04/15/2008

LAW OFFICES

# KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN JOSEPH A. WALSH II HERBERT H. RAY, JR. \*† JODI S. COHEN FHILIP R. LEMPRIBRE \*\* JULIE L. TAYLOR STACEY MYERS GARRETT JON W. ZINKE\* DOUGLAS R. DAVIS \*† GORDON C. YOUNG ELIZABETH H. LINDH KELLY J. MOVNIHAN CARA L. MEREDITH SARAH TONG SANGMEISTER MANC R. GREENBERG JULIE A. ROLE DAVID D. PIPER JOHN L. RABALA BSTHER E. CHO

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

**SUITE 1500** 

FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111

> (415) 398-6000 FACSIMILE:

(415) 981-0136

www.kyl.com

February 26, 2008

OLEN R. PIPER
CATHARINE M. MORISSET;
CHRISTOPHER A. STECHER
DIANA J. COBURN
AUDETTE PAUL MORALES
SCOTT E. HINSCHE
MELANIE I. RONEN
BENJAMIN W. WHITE
BENTLEY B STANSBURY HI
ATLANTIS T. LANGOWSKI
JOHN D. KIMMERLENH
EVELYN A. CHRISTENSEN EVELYN A. CHRISTENSEN MARGARET A. DeGOOYER ASHLBY YOUNG ADAMS GARRETT R. WYNNE

JASON R, LINDSAY JOHN COX DAVID A. TONG MOMO E. TAKAHASHI TONI Y. LONG Charles M. Billy Angeliki J. Papadakis STEFAN PEROVICH AILAN LIU NICOLAS J. VIKSTROM+ Q. HANS SPERLING SAMANTHA R. SMITH'S JAMES F. KUHNE, JR. ANNIE M. MORIARTY NICOLE S. BUSSI

- ADMITTED IN ALASKA
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- ADMITTED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA & FLORIDA REGISTERED FOREIGN LAWYER WITH THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG & ADMITTED IN NEW YOR
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  NORTHERN IRELAND
  ALL OTHERS ADMITTED IN CALIFORNIA

ROBERT H. LOGAN
RICHARD A. APPELBAUM±
REAR ADMIRAL, U.S.C.O., (RET.)
ELIZABETH A. KENDRICK
RICHARD L. LANDES

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ALBERT E. PEACOCK HIS
CAMERON STOUT
ROBERT J. STEMLER
LISA M. BERTAIN
ROBERT J. BOCKO ++
MICHELE R. FRON
ELIZABETH P. BEAZLEY

of counsel
Sandor X. Mayuga
Aum ± David W. Taylor o
(Ret.) Nancy Harrigs †
Rick Frances L. Keeler

### Via Facsimile - 415-568-2556

William M. Audet, Esq. Audet & Partners, LLP 221 Main Street, Suite 1460 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: February 22, 2008 Letter re: Cosco Busan

Our File No.: 2418-229

### Dear William:

We received your February 22, 2008 letter in which you suggest specific language for documents that may be used by Hudson in their administration of the claims process.

According to court documents, Judge Conti did not require Hudson to include any specific language in their documents but rather stated that Hudson could not force claimants to sign a release clause terminating claims. The order is:

### ORDERED AFTER HEARING:

The parties can proceed with the class action, and the claimants can also proceed under OPA: however, those proceeding under OPA cannot be forced to sign a release clause terminating claims: also those proceeding under OPA shall not be contacted by defendants to be dissuaded from retaining counsel or abandoning or joining the class action; however, they can be contacted re their desire to proceed under OPA claims procedures.

The OPA procedure is separate and independent from plaintiff's state law claims.

The bond shall remain in effect.

The defendants are ordered to inform those who signed Release Forms that said release does not preclude them from becoming a plaintiff class member, if they so desire.

Plaintiff Government document disclosures are to be turned over to the Defendant with 3 weeks. Plaintiff Chelsea, LLC. Rule 26 disclosures to go forward.

The time and place of the depositions of the 6 crew men to be determined.

Discovery Stayed until 4/25/08.

ANCHORAGE OFFICE SUITE 650 029 West Third Avenue ANCHORAGE, AK 99801-1954 (907) 279-9896 FACSIMILE: (907) 279-4239

LONG BEACH OFFICE PO. BOX 1780 CO. BOX 1780 LONG BEACH, CA 90801-1730 (562) 438-2000 PACSIMILE: (562) 438-7418 SEATTLE OFFICE SUITE 1515 1301 FIFTH AVENUE SBATTLE, WA 98101

HONG KONG OFFICE 1603 THE CENTRE MARK 207 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL (852) 2654-1718 PACSIMILE: (852) 2541-6189

William M. Audet, Esq. February 26, 2008 Page 2

Re: February 22, 2008 Letter re: Cosco Busan

Our File No.: 2418-229

In addition, Judge Conti specifically denied your Ex Parte motion in which you request the Court to order Hudson to include information about the class action lawsuit and your contact information. Based on the language of the minute order and the clear denial of your motion, we do not believe that Hudson Marine is required to include the language you suggested in your letter.

We are proceeding with the intent to fully comply with Judge Conti's order and Hudson Marine is immediate steps to work with the claimants according to the order.

Best regards,

Julie Taylor

JLT:NSB: (KYL\_SF460274)

\*02/26/2008 11:56 TEL 4159817729 KEESAL, YOUNG&LOGAN

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SEATTLE OFFICE SUITE 1515 1301 FIFTH AVENUE SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101  $(206)\ 622.3790$ FAX: (206) 343-9529

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### LAW OFFICES

KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION **SUITE 1500** FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 (415) 398-6000 FAX: (415) 981-0136

### **FACSIMILE**

DATE: February 26, 2008

ANCHORAGE OFFICE SUPPE 630 1029 WEST 3RD AVENUE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99801-1954 (907) 279-9696 FAX: (907) 279-4239

HONG KONG OFFICE 1603 THE CENTRE MARK 287 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL HONG KONG (852) 2854-1718 FAX: (852) 2541-6189

"TO:	William M. Audet, Esq.		YOUR REF:		
FAX:	(415) 568-2 <u>556</u>				
FROM:	Julie L. Taylor, Esq.		OUR REF:	2418-229	
No. of pa	ages including this sheet:	3			

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> Re: February 22, 2008 Letter re: Cosco Busan

Exhibit "B"

#### LAW OFFICES

### Keesal, Young & Logan

A PROPESSIONAL CORPORATION

SUITE 1500

, 10SEPH A. WALSH II
HERBERT H. RAY, JR. \*\*
JODI S. COHEN
PHILIP R. LEMPRIBRE \*4
JULIE L. TAYLOR
STACEY MYERS GARRETT
JON W. ZINKIB\*
DOUGLAS R. DAVIS \*\*
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CARA L. MEREDITH
SARAH TONG BANGMEISTER
MARO R. GREENBERG
JULIE A. KOLB
DAVID D. PIPER
JOHN L. BABALA
ESTHER B. CHO FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111 (415) 398-6000

> FACSIMILE: (415) 981-0196

www.kyl.com

April 11, 2008

Glen R. Piper Catharine M. Modisset+ Christophier A. Stecher Diana J. Coburn Audotte Paul Morales AUDSTTE PAUL MORALES SCOTT B. HINSOHE MELANIE L. ROMEN BENJAMIN W. WHITE BENTLEY P. STANSBURY III ATLANTIS T. LANGOVSKII JOHN D. KIMMERLEIN EVELYN A. CHRISTINSEN MARGARET A. DOGOOVER ASHLEY YOUNG ADAMS OARRETT E. WYNNE

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ANGELIHI J. PAPADAKIS
STEFAN PEROVICH
AILAN LIU
NICOLAS J. VIHSTROMI
G. HANS SPERLING
SAMANTHA R. SMITHJAMES F. KUNNE, JR.
ANNIE M. MORIARTY
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- ROBERT H. LOGAN
  RICHARD A. APPBLBAUM±
  REAR ADMIRAL, U.S.C.G. (RET.)
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SAMUEL A. KBESAL, JR.
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CAMERON STOUT
ROBERT J. STEMLER
LISA M. BERTAIN
ROBERT J. STEMLER
LISA M. BERTAIN
ROBERT J. BOCKO\*
MICHELE R. PRON
BLIZABETH R BEAZLEY

OF COUNSEL
SANDOR K. MAYUGA
AUM ± DAVID W. TAYLOR 0
(RET.) NANOY HARRISS †
RICK FRANCES L. KEELER

- ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON & CALIFORNIA

  ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON & CALIFORNIA

  ADMITTED IN ALASKA & CALIFORNIA

  ADMITTED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA & FLORIDA

  REGISTERED FOREION LAWYER WITH THE LAW SOCIETY
  OF HONG KONG & ADMITTED IN NEW YORK

  SOLICITOR ADMITTED IN ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND ALL OTHERS ADMITTED IN CALIFORNIA

Via Facsimile - 415-568-2556 and U.S. Mail

William M. Audet, Esq. Audet & Partners, LLP 221 Main Street, Suite 1460 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

USDC Case No. C-07-5800-SC

Our File No.: 2418-229

Dear Mr. Audet:

We are writing in response to your April 8, 2008 letter in which you request a copy of the documentation that Hudson Marine is currently providing to claimants who participate in the claims process. Please be advised that claimants who receive payment through the claims process have been asked to sign a Receipt and Acknowledgment of Compensation (the "Receipt"). As you know, Judge Conti's Order does not require defendants to provide you with a copy of those Receipts. Moreover, we understand that your colleague, Anthony Urie, has been keeping you closely advised of his dealings with Hudson Marine on behalf of your clients. However, in an effort to further facilitate the processing of your clients' claims through the claims process, we are enclosing a copy of the form Receipt herewith.

With regard to those claimants who previously signed Releases upon receipt of payment through the claims process, it is premature to advise them that they are not precluded from participating as plaintiffs in a class action because no class action has been certified. If a class is certified, we propose that the notice to class members include language to the effect that any previous releases signed in connection with the claims process will not preclude claimants from participating in the class action, if they so desire.

William M. Audet, Esq. April 11, 2008 Page 2

Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

USDC Case No. C-07-5800-SC

Our File No.: 2418-229

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss these matters further.

Very truly yours,

fulie A. Kole

julie.kole@kyl.com

JAK:mpm (KYL\_SF461472)

### RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COMPENSATION

(1) I,, (hereinafter ref	erred				
to as "Claimant") hereby acknowledge and confirm that I have received pay	ment				
pursuant to the Oil Pollution Act of 19901 in the amoun	t of				
(\$) as payment sole	ly for				
the category of losses defined below in Paragraph 3 (hereinafter referred to as	the "				
Claim"), relating to the oil pollution incident which occurred on or about November					
7, 2007 in the waters of the San Francisco Bay and surrounding areas from the M/V					
COSCO BUSAN (hereinafter referred to as "the Incident"). The above s	tated				
amount includes an advance in the amount of					
(\$), which was previously received onand is he	reby				
acknowledged.					

(2) The above payment is being made and memorialized by Receipt and Acknowledgement in lieu of a release under protest by and on behalf of the M/V COSCO BUSAN; Captain John C. Cota; San Francisco Bar Pilots Benevolent and Protective Association; Regal Stone Ltd.; Synergy Management Services; Fleet Management Ltd.; Steamship Insurance Management Services Limited; Hudson Marine Management Services; and The O'Brien's Group, together with their respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, crewmembers, charterers, general partners, joint venturers, managers, contractors, subcontractrs, all parent, holding, subsidiary or affiliated and/or related companies and assigns; The Oil Spill

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 33 U.S.C. §2701 et seq.

Liability Trust Fund; California Oil Spill Response Trust Fund; The State of California and any of its political sub-divisions including but not limited to Counties, Cities, Joint Power Act entities and each of their departments, divisions. boards, commissions, authorities, agencies and employees; The United States of America and each of its departments, divisions, agencies and employees: (collectively referred to hereinafter as "Vessel Interests"). Claimant and Vessel Interests shall be collectively referred to as "the Parties."

(3) Specifically, Claimant acknowledges receipt of payment in the above amount for the following claimed damages (hereinafter referred to as "the Claim"):

Economic losses due to closure of the Dungeness crab fishery (District 10) occurring on or before December 1, 2007, as a result of the Incident and as outlined in the claim documentation submitted by Claimant pursuant to the claims procedure. The payment hereby received does not represent compensation for any alleged or actual subsequent or future damages occurring after December 1, 2007, because of the Incident, including damages for depression in the price of Dungeness crab due to market stigma, biological damage to the Dungeness crab fishery (District 10), attorneys' fees, punitive damages, and/or prejudgment interest; a claim for any such damages, fees, or interest is not waived or released by receipt of this payment.

- Page 46 of 90
- (4) Claimant is claiming and receiving the above stated amount for himself/herself and on behalf of his/her captain and crew members identified on Exhibit A and hereby incorporated by reference.
- Claimant is receiving funds on behalf of other individuals and because he/she is receiving these funds, he/she covenants and agrees that he/she is solely responsible for determining the division and payment of the funds being received today amongst the captain and crewmembers listed on Exhibit A. Claimant acknowledges that once the compensation noted above is paid to Claimant, the Vessel Interests shall have no obligation to Claimant to determine the shares and/or amounts to be paid to the vessel owner, captain and crewmembers from the total amount received pursuant to the terms of this Receipt and Acknowledgement. Further, Claimant promises to make the appropriate payment (less a proportionate share of attorneys' fees and costs, if applicable) to the identified crewmembers within a reasonable time and to obtain a receipt from the crewmembers evidencing that the payment was made. The receipt shall acknowledge that the crewmembers are accepting the payment as compensation for the economic losses they incurred as crewmembers for Claimant during the time period on or before December 1, 2007 and that such payment shall be a credit against any amounts received for compensation relating to the Claim. Claimant shall provide a copy of the crewmembers' signed receipt to the Vessel Interests.

- (6) The Parties understand that this is only a receipt for payment of the Claim and not a release of the Claim or any other claims referred to in Paragraph 3. The Parties further understand and agree that neither the Vessel Interests nor anyone on the Vessel Interests' behalf have made any representation of fact, opinion, or promise to Claimant to induce Claimant to participate in the claims process relating to the Incident and/or to accept this compensation for the Claim, except those representations specifically contained in this Receipt and Acknowledgement. Similarly, neither Claimant, nor anyone on Claimant's behalf, has made any representation of fact, opinion, or promise to Vessel Interests, other than those made in the Claim submitted pursuant to the claims process.
- (7) The Parties further agree and understand that the payment herein received and acknowledged is a payment and credit against the damages, losses and the Claim specified by Claimant and stated in Paragraph 3 above.
- (8) Claimant warrants that he/she has the sole right to receive the sums specified herein on his/her own behalf as well as on behalf of his/her captain and crewmembers listed in Exhibit A; and that Claimant has not sold, assigned, transferred, conveyed or otherwise disposed of any of the claims, demands, obligations or causes of action referred to herein.
- (9) Claimant represents that he/she understands that he/she may consult with legal counsel regarding the Claim relating to the Incident or that Claimant has already consulted with legal counsel regarding the Claim and that

Claimant understands the terms of this Receipt and Acknowledgement and signs it on his/her own volition.

- (10) Nothing herein is intended to be construed as a waiver or release by the Parties of any or all rights, remedies, or defenses they may have against each other, any party, person, firm, public entity or corporation, including but not limited to the right to file, participate in or prosecute a class action lawsuit, an individual action or other action of any kind allowed by law. The Vessel Interests further reserve any and all claims, rights, defenses, rights of appeal and/or remedies they may have arising from the Incident.
- (11) Claimant acknowledges and agrees that payment of the amount specified hereinabove is not an admission of liability by any of the Vessel Interests.
- (12) The Parties are cooperating and making every effort to identify and submit, as requested, necessary records, to the extent available, to substantiate Claimant's Claim in order to properly adjust and compensate Claimant for possible In the event that the Vessel Interests apply to the National Pollution Fund Center ("NPFC") for limitation of liability and reimbursement of their fees, costs, expenses, damages and losses they have incurred due to the Incident and are eligible for such limitation of liability or reimbursement, the Parties agree to reasonably cooperate to provide any additional business records relating to the 2007-2008 crab fishing season (if available to Claimant) required by the NPFC to substantiate the damages and losses for which Claimant is being compensated by the Vessel Interests. However, such additional records shall not be

the basis for reopening, diminishing or rescinding the compensation paid to Claimant as acknowledged herein. In no event shall Claimant be required to produce tax returns, tax records or records which Claimant does not maintain or possess.

DATED:

possess.		
DATED:		
	Claimant	
	Print Name	·
	Address:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
•	m	
•	Telephone Number:	

/// ///

## EXHIBIT A TO RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COMPENSATION

The undersigned captain and crewmembers (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Crewmembers") of the F/V \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hereby acknowledge that they have reviewed the attached Receipt and Acknowledgement of Compensation and warrant that they have had a chance to consult with legal counsel regarding the document and have their questions answered, if any, and that they fully understand and agree to its terms and that its terms are equally binding upon them, as they are upon the Claimant, who is specifically identified in the Receipt and Acknowledgement.

Specifically, the Crewmembers understand that the Claimant has made a Claim on the Crewmembers' behalf for economic losses, as defined in Paragraph 3 of the Receipt and Acknowledgment of Compensation, which the Crewmembers may have sustained due to the closure of the 2007 Dungeness crab fishery (District 10), during which time they would have worked aboard the above referenced fishing vessel.

As a result of the Claim submitted to the Vessel Interests by Claimant, the Claimant is receiving one lump sum payment to compensate Claimant and his/her Crewmembers for the economic losses allegedly sustained because of the closure of the 2007 Dungeness crab fishery (District 10). By submitting a Claim on behalf of his/her Crewmembers, Claimant has agreed to divide any compensation received pursuant to the Claim amongst his/her crew as agreed by and between

Claimant and the Crewmembers. By signing below, you further acknowledge and agree that any division amongst the Crewmembers of the compensation received pursuant to the Claim, is between you and the Claimant and that the Vessel Interests shall not have any obligations or liabilities to pay Crewmembers separately for the Claim as defined in Paragraph 3 of the Receipt and Acknowledgment of Compensation, with respect to services provided or that would have been provided to Claimant or to determine what portion of the compensation Crewmembers are entitled to receive for any alleged losses and/or damages encompassed by the Claim.

DATED:		
•	Crewmember	
	Print Name	
	Address:	
	Telephone Number:	
DATED:		
	Crewmember	
	Print Name	
	Address:	<del></del>
	Telephone Number:	•

///

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DATED:	
	Crewmember
	Print Name Address:
•	Telephone Number:
DATED:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Crewmember
	Print Name Address:
	Telephone Number:
DATED:	
	Crewmember
	Print Name Address:
•	Telephone Number:

04/11/2008 14:56 TEL 4159817729

KEESAL, YOUNG&LOGAN

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\$EATTLE OFFICE SUITE 1515 1301 FIFTH A VENUE SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101 (206) 622-3790 FAX: (206) 343-9529

### LAW OFFICES

KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION SUITE 1500

FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 (415) 398-6000 FAX: (415) 981-0136 ANCHORAGE OFFICE SUITE 650 1029 WEST 3\*\*\* A VENUE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-1954 (907) 279-9696 FAX: (907) 279-4239

HONG KONG OFFICE 1603 THE CENTRE MARK 287 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL HONG KONG (852) 2854-1718 FAX: (852) 2541-6189

### **FACSIMILE**

**DATE:** April 10, 2008

To:

William M. Audet, Esq.

Firm:

Audet & Partners, LLP

Fax:

(415) 568-2556

Main No.:

(415) 982-1776

E-mail:

waudet@audetlaw.com

From:

Julie A. Kole, Esq.

Re:

Chelsea, LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

USDC Case No. C-07-5800-SC

Our File No.:

2418-229

Your File No.:

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS SHEET:

12

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MESSAGE:

Exhibit "C"

#### LAW OFFICES

### KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN

A PROPESSIONAL CORPORATION

SHITE 1500

FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111

(415) 398-6000 FACSIMILE:

(415) 981-0136

www.kyl.com

April 7, 2008

OLEN R. PIPER
CATHARINE M. MORISSET +
CHRISTOPHER A. STECHER
DIANA J. COBURN
AUDETTE PAUL MORALES
SCOTT E. HINSCHE
MELANIE L. RONEN
BENJAMIN W. WHITE
BENTLEY B STANSBURY HI
ATLANTIE T. LANGOWSKI
JOHN D. HIMMERLEIN+
EVELYN A. CHRISTENSEN
MARGARET A. D-GOOVER
ASHLEY YOUNG ALDAYS
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JASON R. LINDSAY
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DAVID A. TONG
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STEFAN PEROVICH
AILAN LIU
NICOLAS J. VIKSTROMI
G. HANG SPERLING
SAMANTHA R. SMITH
JAMES F. KUHNE, JR.
ANNIE M. MORIARTY
NICOLE S. BUSSI

OF COUNSEL

ROBERT H. LOGAN RICHARD A. APPELBAUM ± REAR ADMIRAL, U.S.C.G. (RET.) BLIZABETH A. KENDRICK RICHARD L. LANDES

U.S. Mail

Samuel A. Keesal. Jr. Stephen Young Michael M. Gless Peter R. Boutin Scott T. Pratt Terry Ross

Terry Ross John D. Gippin William H. Collier, Jr. Philip A. McLeod Neal Scott Robb

Ben Suter Albert E. Peacock ins Cameron Stout Robert J. Stemler Lisa M. Bertain Robert J. Bocko\*+

MICHELE R. FRON BLIZABETH P. BRAZLBY

BEN SUTER

SANDOR X. MAYUGA DAVID W. TAYLOR O NANCY HARRISS † FRANCES L. KEELER

Joseph A. Walsh II Herbert H. Ray. Jr. \*\* Jodi S. Cohen

PHILIP R. LEMPRIERE \*\*

JON W. ZINKE\* DOUGLAS R. DAVIS\*\*

GORDON C. YOUNG ELIZABETH H. LINDH

KELLY J. MOYNIHAN

MARO R. GREENBERG JULIE A. KOLE DAVID D. PIPER

JOHN L. BABALA ESTHER E. CHO

JULIE L. TAYLOR STACEY MYERS GARRETT

CARA L. MEREDITH SARAH TONG SANGMEISTER

ADMITTED IN ALASKA

ADMITTED IN ALASMA
ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON
ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON & CALIFORNIA
ADMITTED IN ALASKA & CALIFORNIA
ADMITTED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA & FLORIDA
REGISTERED FOREIGN LAWYER WITH THE LAW SOCIETY

OF HONG KONG & ADMITTED IN NEW YORK D SOLICITOR ADMITTED IN ENGLAND, WALES AND ALL OTHERS ADMITTED IN CALIFORNIA

## Via Facsimile - 415-568-2556 and

William M. Audet, Esq. Michael McShane, Esq. Audet & Partners, LLP 221 Main Street, Suite 1460 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

Our File No.: 2418-229

Dear Messrs. Audet and McShane:

As you know, we represent Regal Stone Limited in the above referenced matter. We are writing once again to formally request that you dismiss Conti Cairo KG ("Conti Cairo") and NSB Neiderelbe ("NSB") from this action. Conti Cairo, former owners, and NSB, former managers, did not own or operate the COSCO BUSAN at the time of the oil spill on November 7, 2007, and therefore are not proper parties to this action.

We have previously provided you with documents showing that neither Conti Cairo or NSB owned or managed the COSCO BUSAN at the time of the oil spill. Enclosed you will find declarations signed by the president of NSB and the Managing Directors of Conti Cairo which state under penalty of perjury that Conti Cairo sold the vessel on October 24, 2007. As of this date, Conti Cairo and NSB's obligations as former owners and managers of the vessel terminated. Furthermore, on the date of the sale, insurance coverage obtained for the benefit of Conti Cairo and NSB was cancelled. After that date, it was the responsibility of the vessel's new owners to obtain insurance coverage.

William M. Audet, Esq. Michael McShane, Esq. April 7, 2008 Page 2

> Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al. Our File No.: 2418-229

In addition, we have enclosed documentation evidencing the cancellation of insurance coverage obtained for the benefit of Conti Cairo and NSB.

- 1. Certificate of Entry showing original insurance period as February 20, 2007 February 20, 2008;
- 2. Vessel Addendum amending the end of the insurance period from February 20, 2008 to October 24, 2007 (the date of the sale).

We trust that in light of these documents, as well as documents previously provided, you will agree to voluntarily dismiss Conti Cairo and NSB from this action. Please inform us whether you intend to do so. As you know, Conti Cairo and NSB are prepared to take the steps necessary to file a Motion to Dismiss and seek Rule 11 sanctions if you continue to refuse to voluntarily dismiss them.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

Anne Moriarty

annie.moriarty@kyl.com

anne Moriarty

AMM:amm (KYL\_SF461294)

### CERTIFICATE OF ENTRY

### **Protection & Indemnity Insurance**

Risk Ref. No.:

2007PI0081 - 9231743

Legal Assured:

NSB Niederelbe

As managers

Schiffahrtsgesellschaft mbH

& Co. KG

Vessel:

**COSCO BUSAN** 

IMO No:

9231743

GT:

65,131

Built:

2001

Period of Insurance:

From 20-Feb-2007, 1200 GMT (0) until 20-Feb-2008, 1200 GMT (0)

#### **Main Conditions**

This is to certify that above-named Assured is a Member of The Swedish Club and that the vessel stated above is entered with The Swedish Club for Protection & Indemnity Insurance on full cover as per current Rules for Protection & Indemnity. The limit of liability for Oil Pollution is USD 1,000,000,000. In respect of P&I Excess War Risk Cover the limit is USD 500,000,000 and in respect of certain war and terrorist risk the liabilities arising from Bio-Chem etc, the limit is USD 30,000,000.

Subject always to the Rules of the Association and the terms of entry for the Assured, the following is included in the cover:

Liability for pollution (caused by a spillage of oil or any hazardous and noxious substances) (Rule 6)

Wreck Removal liability (Rule 7 section 5)

In respect of the risks insured hereunder, to the extent the Member is insured for pollution risks under any other Insurance, cover hereunder shall be null, void and of no effect, up to the limits of said other insurance. Above the limits of said other insurance, cover under this insurance shall remain in effect, subject always to the limits herein which are applicable to such risks, to any deductible(s), and to the other terms, conditions and Club Rules. In the event the limits available under such other insurance are the same

as or greater than the limits available for pollution losses under this insurance, then this insurance shall be null, void and of no effect with regard to such claims. In the event the limits of said other insurance are less than the limits available hereunder, this insurance shall respond up to the limits set forth herein for pollution losses, but only for the amount by which any such losses exceed the stated limits of such other insurance, and then only up to the limits set forth herein for pollution losses. This insurance shall respond only in excess of the stated limits of the other insurance, whether or not the full amount of such other policy limits, or any amount at all, is recoverable thereunder.

Notwithstanding the Terms of Rule (11:6), this insurance will not provide any recovery in respect of liabilities insured under any other insurance, or provide pro rated or allocated cover, on the basis of double insurance or otherwise, except as set forth above; nor will this insurance replace any other insurance where (for whatever reason) that other insurance does not or is not able to respond to a claim thereunder.

This certificate of entry is evidence only of the contract of indemnity insurance between the above named Member(s) and the Association and shall not be construed as evidence of any undertaking, financial or otherwise, on the part of the Association to any other party.

In the event that a Member tenders this certificate as evidence of insurance under any applicable law relating to financial responsibility, or otherwise shows or offers it to any other party as evidence of insurance, such use of this Certificate by the Member is not to be taken as any indication that the Association thereby consents to act as guarantor or to be sued directly in any jurisdiction whatsoever. The Association does not so consent.

Göteborg, 12-Feb-2007

Sveriges Ångfartygs Assurans Förening

The Swedish Club

# The Swedish Club

Attachment to Risk Ref. No: 2007PI0081 - 9231743 Vessel: COSCO BUSAN

Deductibles USD 5,000 Cargo liability USD

2,500 Crew liability USD 5,000 Other P&I risks

The deductible for cargo liability is for each single voyage, all other deductibles applicable on each accident or occurrence, unless otherwise stated.

The deductible for cargo liability to be increased by 100% for liability in respect of damage to cargo caused by leaking hatches and/or hull. This deductible is also applied in respect of liability to passenger's belongings and/or luggage.

Trading:

World wide

Joint Member(s):

Conti 1. Container

As owners

Schiffahrts- GmbH & Co. KG

MS "CONTI CAIRO"

Co-Assured(s):

Columbia Shipmanagement

Ltd.

The interest of the following Mortgagee(s) / Assignee(s) is noted:

Mortgagee(s):

HSH Nordbank AG

Deutsche Schiffsbank Commerzbank AG, Filiale

Hamburg

### Special Conditions

Rule 3, section 1(b) - excluded insofar as this liability is covered by social security schemes or additional insurance is arranged by the Member or his Agents. (Relates to crew illness etc.)

Rule 3, section 2, first paragraph - excluded insofar as this liability is covered by social security schemes or additional insurance is arranged by the Member or his Agents. (Relates to crew wages etc.)

Rule 4, section 2, first paragraph - excluded (relates to through transport)

Rule 7, section 2(a) - excluded but excess collision liability covered. (Relates to 1/4ths collision liability)

Rule 7, section 3, first paragraph - excluded but excess liability covered. (Relates to liability for fixed and floating objects.)

The Swedish Club

### Vessel Addendum

Risk Ref No:

Client:

Sub Class:

Insurance Period:

2007PI0081

NSB Niederelbe Schiffahrtsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG

Protection & Indemnity Insurance

20-Feb-2007 - 19-Feb-2008

Vessel	IMO	Description	Туре	New Value	Effective From
COSCO BUSAN	9231743	Period To	Amendment	24 Oct 2007	20-Feb-2007

Göteborg, 30-Oct-2007

Sveriges Ångfartygs Assurans Förening The Swedish Club

7. Maluns

Page 61 of 90

JOHN D. GIFFIN, CASB NO. 89608 john.giffin@kyl.com JULIE L. TAYLOR, CASB NO. 154341 julie.taylor@kyl.com 3 KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN A Professional Corporation 4 Four Embarcadero Center 5 Suite 1500 San Francisco, California 94111 Telephone: (415) 398-6000 Facsimile: (415) 981-0136 7 8 Attorneys for: REGAL STONE, LTD., in personam, M/V COSCO BUSAN, in rem 9 10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 11 NORTHERN DISTRICT CALIFORNIA 12 13 14 CHELSEA, LLC, MARK RUSSO, ALLEN ) Case No. C 07 05800 (SC) 15 LORETZ, and IVAN SIMPSON. individually and on behalf of all others DECLARATION OF JOSEF 16 similarly situated. SEDLMEYR 17 Plaintiffs, 18 VS. 19 REGAL STONE, LTD., HANJIN 20 SHIPPING, CO., LTD., CONTI CAIRO KG, NSB NEIDERELBE, SYNERGY 21 MARITIME, LTD., IN PERSONAM, M/V COSCO BUSAN, their engines, tackle, 22 equipment, appurtenances, freights, and 23 cargo IN REM, 24 Defendant. 25 26 I, Josef Sedlmeyr, declare as follows: 27 1. I am one of the two Managing Directors of the Conti 1. Container 28 Schiffahrts-GmbH & Co. KG ("Conti Cairo"). I have personal knowledge of the matters KYL\_SF460988 DECLARATION OF JOSEF SEDLMEYR - Case No. C 07 05800 (SC)

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set forth in this Declaration, and if called to testify, I could and would competently testify to those matters.

- 2. On June 25, 2001, NSB entered into a "Ship Management Agreement" with Conti Cairo. Under this agreement, NSB agreed to manage the COSCO BUSAN (formerly named the MV CONTI CAIRO). As Ship Manager, NSB's duties included operating, manning, servicing and inspecting the vessel.
  - 3. Conti Cairo purchased the COSCO BUSAN on December 27, 2001.
- 4. On October 24, 2007, Conti Cairo sold the COSCO BUSAN to Regal Stone, Ltd.
- Conti Cairo's obligations as the owner of the COSCO BUSAN 5. terminated with the sale of the vessel. As of October 24, 2007, Conti Cairo no longer owned the COSCO BUSAN and had no relationship to the vessel.
- 6. Upon the sale of the COSCO BUSAN on October 24, 2007, insurance coverage obtained for the benefit of Conti Cairo and NSB was cancelled. After that date, the responsibility to place insurance for the benefit of the vessel's owners and managers became the responsibility of the vessel's new owners. Neither Conti Cairo nor NSB had any further responsibility concerning insurance coverage for the vessel.

penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Josef SedImeyr

- 2 -

KYL\_SF460988

DECLARATION OF HELMUT PONATH - Case No. C 07 05800 (SC)

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- Declaration, and if called to testify, I could and would competently testify to those matters.
- On June 25, 2001, NSB entered into a "Ship Management 2. Agreement" with Conti Cairo KG ("Conti Cairo"). Under this agreement, NSB agreed to manage the COSCO BUSAN (formerly named the MV CONTI CAIRO). As Ship Manager, NSB's duties included operating, manning, servicing and inspecting the
  - Conti Cairo purchased the COSCO BUSAN on December 27, 2001. 3.
- On October 24, 2007, Conti Cairo sold the COSCO BUSAN to Regal 4. Stone, Ltd.
- NSB's obligations as the COSCO BUSAN's manager terminated with 5. Conti Cairo's sale of the vessel. As of October 24, 2007, NSB was no longer manager of the COSCO BUSAN and had no relationship to the vessel.
- Upon the sale of the COSCO BUSAN on October 24, 2007, insurance 6. coverage obtained for the benefit of Conti Cairo and NSB was cancelled. After that date, the responsibility to place insurance for the benefit of the vessel's owners and managers became the responsibility of the vessel's new owners. Neither Conti Cairo nor NSB had any further responsibility concerning insurance coverage for the vessel.

Executed this 21 day of April 2008, in Buxtehude, Germany. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Helmut Ponath

Kel + Kanak

- 2 -

KYL\_SF460975

JOHN D. GIFFIN, CASB NO. 89608 john.giffin@kyl.com 2 JULIE L. TAYLOR, CASB NO. 154841 julie.taylor@kyl.com 3 KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN A Professional Corporation 4 Four Embarcadero Center 5 Suite 1500 San Francisco, California 94111 6 Telephone: (415) 398-6000 Facsimile: (415) 981-0136 7 8 Attorneys for: REGAL STONE, LTD., in personam, M/V COSCO BUSAN, in rem 9 10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 11 NORTHERN DISTRICT CALIFORNIA 12 en la companya de la 13 ett server i de twa yjanaka ti Binasi es (p. 17) 14 CHELSEA, LLC, MARK RUSSO, ALLEN & Case No. C 07 05800 (SC) 15 LORETZ, and IVAN SIMPSON, DECLARATION OF CHRISTOPH individually and on behalf of all others 16 similarly situated, WIZIGMANN 17 Plaintiffs, 18 19 REGAL STONE, LTD., HANJIN 20 SHIPPING, CO., LTD., CONTI CAIRO KG, NSB NEIDERELBE, SYNERGY 21 MARITIME, LTD., IN PERSONAM, M/V COSCO BUSAN, their engines, tackle, 22 equipment, appurtenances, freights, and 23 cargo IN REM. 24 Defendant. 25 26 I, Christoph Wizigmann, declare as follows: 27 I am one of the two Managing Directors of the Conti 1. Container 1. 28 Schiffahrts-GmbH & Co. KG ("Conti Cairo"). I have personal knowledge of the matters KYL SF461100 DECLARATION OF CHRISTOPH WIZIGMANN - Case No. C 07 05800 (SC)

Case 3:07-cv-05800-SC

28

set forth in this Declaration, and if called to testify, I could and would competently testify to those matters.

- On June 25, 2001, NSB entered into a "Ship Management 2. Agreement" with Conti Cairo. Under this agreement, NSB agreed to manage the COSCO BUSAN (formerly named the MV CONTI CAIRO). As Ship Manager, NSB's duties included operating, manning, servicing and inspecting the vessel.
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- 4. On October 24, 2007, Conti Cairo sold the COSCO BUSAN to Regal Stone, Ltd.
- Б. Conti Cairo's obligations as the owner of the COSCO BUSAN terminated with the sale of the vessel. As of October 24, 2007, Conti Cairo no longer owned the COSCO BUSAN and had no relationship to the vessel.
- Upon the sale of the COSCO BUSAN on October 24, 2007, insurance 6. coverage obtained for the benefit of Conti Cairo and NSB was cancelled. After that date, the responsibility to place insurance for the benefit of the vessel's owners and managers became the responsibility of the vessel's new owners. Neither Conti Cairo nor NSB had any further responsibility concerning insurance coverage for the vessel.

Executed this \_\_\_\_\_day of April 2008, in Munich, Germany. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Christoph Wizigmann

KYL\_SF461100

LONG BEACH OFFICE
400 OCEANGATE
P.O. BOX 1730
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90801-1730
(562) 436-2000
FAX: (562) 436-7416

PGS.

RESULT

SKATTLE OFFICE
SUITE 1515
1301 FIFTH AVENUE
SKATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101
(206) 622-3790
FAX: (206) 343-9529

### LAW OFFICES

13

OK

KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION SUITE 1500 FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 (415) 398-6000 FAX: (415) 981-0136

### **FACSIMILE**

**DATE:** April 7, 2008

ANCHORAGE OFFICE SUITE 650 1029 WEST 3<sup>EU</sup> AVENUE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-1954 (907) 279-9696 FAX: (907) 279-4239

HONG KONG OFFICE 1693 THE CENTRE MARK 287 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL HONG KONG (852) 2854-1718 FAX: (852) 2541-6189

TO:	William M. Audet, Esq. Michael McShane, Esq.		YOUR REF:		
FAX:	(415) 568-25 <u>56</u>				
FROM:	Annie M. Moriarty, Esq.		OUR REF:	2418-229	
No. of pa	ages including this sheet:	13	•		

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Re: COSCO BUSAN

#### LAW OFFICES

# KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN JOSEPH A. WALSH II HERBERT H. RAY, JR. \* JODI S. COHEN PHILIP R. LEMPRIERE \* JULIE L. LEMPRIERE \* JULIE L. TAYLOR STACEP WYERS CARRETT JON W. ZINKE\* DOUGLAS R. DAVIS \* GORDON C. YOUNG ELIZABETH H. LINDH KELLY J. MOYNIHAN CARA L. MEREDITH SARAH TONG SANGMEISTER MARC R. GREENBERG JULIE A. HOLE DAYID D. PIPER JOHN L. BABALA ESTHER E. CHO

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

**SUITE 1500** 

FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO. CA 94111

(415) 398-6000

FACSIMILE: (415) 981-0136

www.kyl.com

April 11, 2008

OLEN R. PIPER CATHARINE M. MORISSET† CHRISTOPHER A. STECHER DIANA J. COBURN DIANA J. COBURN AUDETTE PAUL MORALES SCOTT E. HINSCHE MELANIE L. RONEN BENJAMIN W WHITE BENTLEY R STANSBURY IU ATLANTIS T. LANGOWSKI JOHN D. KIMMERLEIN! EVELYN A. CHRISTENSEN MARQARET A. DeGOOYER ASHLEY YOUNG ADAMS GARRETT R. WYNNE

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TONI Y. LONG
CHARLES M. BILLY
ANGELIKI J. PAPADAKIS Angeliki J. Papadaki Stepan Perovich Ailan Liu Nicolas J. Vikstrom! G. Hans Sperling Samantha R. Smith! James F. Kuhne. Jr. Annie M. Moriarty Nicole S. Bussi

- ROBERT H. LOGAN
  RICHARD A. AFFELBAUM±
  REAR ADMIRAL, U.S.C.G. (RFT.)
  BLIZABETH A. KENDRICK
  RICHARD L. LANDES

SAMUEL A. KEBSAL, JR.
STEPHEN YOUNG
MICHAEL M. GLESS
FETER R. BOUTIN
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TERRY ROSS
JOHN D. OIFFIN
WILLIAM H. COLLIBR, JR.
PHILIP A. MOLEOD
NEAL SCOTT ROBE
BEN SUTER
ALBERT E. PEACOCK HIS
CAMERON STOUT
ROBERT J. STEMLER
LIOA M. BERTAIN
ROBERT J. BOCKO \*†
MICHELE R. FRON
ELIZABETH R BEAZLEY

- OF COUNSEL
  SANDOR X. MAYUGA
  BAUM ± DAVID W. TAYLOR 0
  1. (RET.) NANCY HARRIES †
  DRICK FRANCES L. KEELER

- Admitted in Alaska Admitted in Washington Admitted in Washington & California Admitted in Alaska & California
- ADMITTED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA & FLORIDA REGISTERED FOREIGN LAWYER WITH THE LAW SOCIETY
- OF HONG KONG & ADMITTED IN NEW YORK

  | SOLICITOR ADMITTED IN ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND ALL OTHERS ADMITTED IN CALIFORNIA

### Via Facsimile - 415-568-2556 and U.S. Mail

William M. Audet, Esq. Audet & Partners, LLP 221 Main Street, Suite 1460 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

USDC Case No. C-07-5800-SC

Our File No.: 2418-229

Dear Mr. Audet:

We are writing to respond your letter, dated April 8, 2008, in which you indicated that you would discuss the issue of whether you would agree to voluntarily dismiss NSB Neiderlbe ("NSB") and Conti Cairo KG ("Conti Cairo") with your co-counsel.

You continue to mistakenly assert, without any supporting authority, that even though NSB and Conti Cairo did not own or manage the COSCO BUSAN at the time of the spill, they are not absolved from liability under maritime law. We are unaware of any legal basis, even theoretical, that would support such a contention under the instant circumstances. If you are aware of any supporting authority we ask that you immediately bring it to our attention.

You also appear to be concerned that because this is a class action we need to seek court approval even for a voluntary dismissal. It is our experience that obtaining court approval for a voluntary dismissal is not a difficult process. Furthermore, upon receiving documents (which we have previously provided to you) showing that NSB and Conti Cairo were not owners or managers of the COSCO BUSAN at the time of the spill, we are confident that the Court will readily approve the dismissal of these improper parties. Of course, NSB and Conti Cairo will fully

William M. Audet, Esq. April 11, 2008 Page 2

Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

USDC Case No. C-07-5800-SC

Our File No.: 2418-229

cooperate in this process. As far as agreeing to a "class tolling agreement", we assume that you mean that should Plaintiffs voluntarily dismiss NSB and Conti Cairo they would do so without prejudice. We would appreciate clarification.

You have also previously relayed your concern that the United States Coast Guard was looking into NSB and Conti Cairo's involvement into the spill. In fact, on March 12, 2008, Conti Cairo received a letter from Commander P.D. Thorne, United States Coast Guard. In that letter, Commander Thorne stated that documents taken from the vessel indicated that Conti Cairo was the COSCO BUSAN's owner, operator, or managing operator. However, in a subsequent letter, dated April 1, 2008, Commander Thorne recognized that Conti Cairo was a *former* owner of the vessel and that he sent the previous letter to Conti Conti in error. He apologized for the confusion and updated the Coast Guard's files. We have enclosed these letters, with the sensitive portions redacted, and trust that they will provide you will further assurance that NSB and Conti Cairo should be dismissed from this lawsuit.

We intend to bring to the Court's attention at the upcoming Case Management Conference the fact that we have provided you with documentation and declarations proving that NSB and Conti Cairo are not proper parties to this lawsuit. We will also advise the Court that if Plaintiffs do not voluntarily dismiss NSB and Conti Cairo, Defendants will specially appear in order to file a Motion to Dismiss.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss these matters further.

Very truly yours,

Annie Moriarty

anniemoriary@kyl.com

annie Moriarty

AMM:amm (KYL\_SF461576)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States
Coast Guard

Commandant United States Coast Guard

2100 Second Street, SW Washington, DC 20593-001 Staff Symbol: CG-5432 Phonei (202) 372-1251 FAX: (202) 372-1917/1918 E-Mall; hqs-pf-fldr-cg-543@usog.nii

EINGEGANGEN 12. März 2008

16711/COSCO BUSAN

Erl.

MAR 3 2008

Conti Cairo KG Harburger Strasse 47-51 21614 Buxtehude Germany

Dear Sir/Madam:

1

On November 09, 2007, the COSCO BUSAN, 9231743, was subject to a Port State Control safety-related detention by the United States Coast Guard in the port of San Francisco, California. Information taken from the vessel's documents indicate that you are the vessel's owner, operator, or managing operator.

You may request reconsideration of a decision by the COTP directly to the official who issued the order. Please refer to Title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart 1.03 for more information. Furthermore, if you believe that you are not the detained vessel's owner, operator, manager and/or charterer, you should immediately provide documentation to substantiate your claim to the above address.

16711/COSCO BUSAN

If you provide evidence that you are the owner, operator or managing operator of at least 25 vessels that visit U.S. ports, your company will not appear on the targeted Ship Management List unless you are associated with at least three detentions within 12 months. Please refer to the following web site for more information:

http://homeport.uscg.mil/mycg/portal/ep/programView.do?channelId=-18371programId=21428

You may also visit our general website, which has information on U.S. PSC policies and procedures, including ISM Code enforcement and our risk-based boarding program as well as links to other regional MOU's on PSC and the International Maritime Organization (IMO):

http://homeport.uscg.mil/mycg/portal/ep/browse.do?channelId=18371

Sincerely,

P. D. THORNE

Commander, U.S. Coast Guard

Chief, Foreign and Offshore Vessels Division

By direction

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard

Commandant United States Coast Guard 2100 Second Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20593-0001 Staff Symbol: CG-5432 Phone: (202) 372-1251 Fax: (202) 372-1917 Email: HQS-PF-fldr-CG-543@uscg.mil

16711/COSCO BUSAN

APR 1 \_ 2008

Contri Cairo KG Harburger Strasse 47-51 21614 Buxtehude Germany

Dear Sir/Ma'am:

I reviewed the information regarding the Owner/Operators associated with the November 9, 2007 detention of the M/V COSCO BUSAN, IMO # 9231743, and have determined Contri Cairo was a previous registered owner of this vessel.

It has come to our attention that your company inadvertently received our letter. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused and have updated our files. Please inform us if our corrective actions are in error.

If you have any further questions about this matter, please call Lieutenant Commander Frances Fazio or myself at the above phone number.

Sincerely,

P. D. THORNE
Commander

U.S. Coast Guard

Chief, Foreign Vessel and Offshore Activities

By direction

TRANSMISSION OK

TO: 94 PAY T 410 801 0190

TX/RX NO

4875

CONNECTION TEL

##02955#5682556#

MEESAL, YOUNG & LUGAN

SUBADDRESS CONNECTION ID

04/11 16:32

ST. TIME USAGE T PGS.

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OK

RESULT

LONG BEACH OFFICE
400 OCEANGATE
P.O. BOX 1730
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90801-1730
(562) 436-2000
FAX: (562) 436-7416

U4/ 11/ UQ

SEATTLE OFFICE SUITE 1515 1301 FIFTH AVENUE SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101 (206) 622-3790 FAX: (206) 343-9829

#### LAW OFFICES

KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
SUITE 1500
FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111
(415) 398-6000
FAX: (415) 981-0136

## **FACSIMILE**

**DATE:** April 11, 2008

ANCHORAGE OFFICE SUITE 650 1029 WEST 3<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 79501-1954 (907) 279-9696 FAX: (907) 279-4239

42001

HONG KONG OFFICE
1603 THE CENTRE MARK
287 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL
HONG KONG
(852) 2854-1718
FAX: (852) 2541-6189

TO:	William M. Audet, Esq.		YOUR REF:		
FAX:	(415) 568-2556		<del></del>		
FROM:	Annie Moriarty, Esq.		OUR REF:	2418-229	
No. of pa	ages including this sheet:	6			

If there is a problem receiving this transmission, please call (415) 398-6000. CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

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RE: Chelsea LLC et. al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd. et. al.
United States District Court, Northern District of California
Case No. C 07 05800 (SC)

#### LAW OFFICES

# KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN JOSEPH A. WALSH II HERBERT H. RAY, JR. \*\* JODI S. COHEN PHILIP R. LEMPRIBERE \*\* JULIE L. TAYLOR STACEY MYERS GARRETT JON W. ZINKE\* DOUGLAS R. DAVIS\*\* GORDON C. YOUNG ELIZABETH H. LINDH KELLY J. MOYNIHAN CARA L. MEREDITH SARAH TONG SANGMEISTER MARC R. GREENBERG JULIE A. KOLE DAVID D. PIPER JOHN L. BABALA ESTHER B. CHO

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

**SUITE 1500** 

FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111

(415) 398-6000

FACSIMILE: (415) 981-0136

www.kyl.com

March 5, 2008

OLEN R. PIPER
CATHARINE M. MORISSET +
CHRISTOPHER A. STECHER
DIANA J. COBURN
AUDETTE FAUL MORALES
SCOTT E. HINSCHE
MELANIE L. RONEN
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BYELTN A. CHRISTENSEN
MARGARET A. DEGOOYER
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JASON R. LINDSAY JOHN COX DAVID A. TONG MOMO E. TAKAHASHI TONI Y. LONG CHARLES M. BILLY ANGELIKI J. PAPADAKIS STEPAN PEROVICH AILAN LIU NICOLAS J. VIKSTROM\* Allan Liu NICOLAS J. VIKSTROM\* C. HANS SPERLING SAMANTHA R. SMITH\* JAMES R. KUHNE, JR. ANNIE M. MORLARTY NICOLE S. BUSSI

OF COUNSEL

OF CO ROBERT H. LOGAN RICHARD A. APPELBAUM ± REAR ADMRAL, U.S.C.O. (RET.) ELIZABETH A. KENDRICK RICHARD L. LANDES

SAMUEL A. KEESAL, JR. STEPHEN YOUNG MICHAEL M. GLESS PETER R. BOUTIN SCOTT T. PRATT TERRY ROSS JOHN D. GIPFIN WILLIAM H. COLLER, JR. PHILIP A. MCLEOD NEAL SCOTT ROBB DEN SUTER B. PEACOCK HIS

BEN SUTER
ALBERT E. PEACOCK III
CAMERON STOUT
ROBERT J. STEMLER
LIGA M. BERTAIN
ROBERT J. BOCKO++
MICHELE R. FRON
ELIZABETH P. BEAZLEY

Sandor X. Mayuga David W. Taylor d Nancy Harriss † Frances L. Reeler

ADMITTED IN ALASKA ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON

ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON & CALIFORNIA
ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON & CALIFORNIA
ADMITTED IN ALASKA & CALIFORNIA
ADMITTED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA & FLORIDA
REGISTARRO FOREIGN LAWYER WITH THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG & ADMITTED IN NEW YORK

D SOLICITOR ADMITTED IN ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND ALL OTHERS ADMITTED IN CALIFORNIA

#### Via Facsimile - 415-568-2556 and U.S. Mail

William M. Audet, Esq. Michael McShane, Esq. Audet & Partners, LLP 221 Main Street, Suite 1460 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

Our File No.: 2418-230

#### Dear Messrs. Audet and McShane:

As you know, we represent Regal Stone Limited in the above referenced matter. We are writing to formally request that you dismiss Conti Cairo KG ("Conti Cairo") and NSB Neiderelbe ("NSB") from this matter. As you and my partner John Giffin have previously discussed, Conti Cairo and NSB did not own the COSCO BUSAN at the time of the oil spill on November 7, 2007.

On February 13, 2008, Mr. Giffin asked you to dismiss Conti Cairo and NSB. You informed him that you would do so if we could provide documents showing that, as of November 7, 2007, neither company owned or managed the COSCO BUSAN.

Enclosed please find documents that show that neither Conti Cairo or NSB owned the COSCO BUSAN on November 7, 2007.

> 1. Bill of Sale for the COSCO BUSAN, dated October 15, 2007. This document shows the Transferor as Conti Cairo and the Transferee as Regal Stone Limited:

William M. Audet, Esq. Michael McShane, Esq. March 5, 2008 Page 2

> Re: Chelsea LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al. Our File No.: 2418-230

- 2. Certified Copy of the "Transcript of Register" from the Hong Kong Marine Department, dated October 30, 2007. This document shows the owner of the COSCO BUSAN as Regal Stone Limited; and
- 3. Ship Management Agreement between Conti Cairo and NSB, dated June 25, 2001. The original Ship Management Agreement ("Agreement") is in German. We arranged to translate the Agreement to English. We have attached the certificate of authorization. Section 8, No. 4 of the Agreement states: "This agreement shall end with the sale or total loss of the vessel."

Please inform us of whether you intend to voluntarily dismiss Conti Cairo and NSB based on the enclosed. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned.

Best regards,

Julie L. Taylor

julie.taylor@kyl.com

JLT:llj(KYL\_SF460480) Enclosures

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Sensitive portions of this agreement have been redacted. Parties to this agreement have not been redacted.

MARINE DEPARTI HONG KONG, CF 中國香港海事	MENT 25000 HINA PO, WO	wich usio? BILI		18		6	corded at the	, ż.
Kong Shipp Note 2 : To facilitat 註 1 : 若本實媒朱	ing Registry. e entries into the Regist	er and issue of Cert ,则香港駐冊船舶的	lficate of Registry, please 夏家不能獲得該船舶的完	provide info			·	
Official number註冊編號 Name of ship			How Propelled 推進裝置					
19545	COSCO BUSAN	<del>                                     </del>		<del></del>	kW 10K98	<del></del>	N. 1914-1-1-1-1-1	
Gross tonnage 總噸位 65,131 tons		Register/Net tonn 34,078 tons		Total Brigine(s) Power (kw) 主機線功率(千瓦 57,100 kw				
Length (metre) 長度 (米 <u>274</u> .67 m	<b>(*)</b>	Breadth (metre)	- 1	Moulded depth (metre) 型深 (米) 24.20 m				
and as described	in more detail in the Cer	tificate of Survey/R	egister of ships 以及在驗	沿證明書/船	納註冊紀	<b>泰冊內更</b> 關	洋盘的記述	
Transferor(s) 移轉人 Full Name(s)		名稱全寫			Address(es) 地址			
CONTI 1. Container S Co. KG MS "CONTI of			, 81829 München, Germany					
I/We, the transferor(s) 本人/我們為移轉人,								
in consideration of 因應以下承轉人約	100 4 1.	00 and other good	and valuable considers	tion		paid to n 給本人/	•	
Transferee(s) 承轉人 Pull Name(s)		名稱全寫 Adda		ess(es) 地址		(applical	upation(s) 関 ble to individua 質用於個別人	ıl only
the transferees(s) (Add "as joint owner" if this is the case) 承轉人			Room 1603 MassMutual Tower, 38 Glouce Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, P.R. of China					
ダラへ (如果是"聯名船東",								
請加以註明)								
oats and appurtenances t E認收該筆款項後,現 further, we the said to hat we have power ncumbrances, charges, li	將上述船舶及其救生艇 ransferor(s) for ourse to transfer in manne iens, mortgages, and any	與輔助設備  Ives and our heirs aforesaid the prerother debts or claim	or successors covenar	分額/部分 t with the ed to be tran	百分比的 said trans nsferred, as	粗益 <i>移料</i> sferee(s) nd that the	and their as same are fre	ssign e fro
<b>企業,而該產業並無</b>	整模負擔。 	·						
			y the registry of the sai					

Signature of witness

見體人簽署

Status 身分

(director, secretary etc. according to the company's articles)

(董事.秘書等,按公司組織細則而定)

Form No. RS/T1



# TRANSCRIPT OF REGISTER

船舶註册紀錄册抄本

PARTICULARS OF SHIP 柏

Name of Ship 船名

COSCO BUSAN

IMO No.

9231743

Port of Registry 註 册 港

HONG KONG

香 港

Call Sign 呼號

VRD16

Official No.

HK-2012

**Date of Registry** 

國際海事組織編號

30-OCT-2007

註冊編號

往册日期

Type of Ship 船舶類型

CONTAINER

Material of Hull 船體材料

STEEL

Date Keel Laid 艉骨安放日期

25 JUNE 2001

Name and Address of Builder HYUNDAI HEAVY IND. CO., LTD.

造船廠名稱、地址

1, CHEONHA-DONG, DONG-GU, ULSAN 682-792, REP. OF KOREA.

Length

長度

265.060 metres

Breadth 寬度

40.000 metres

Moulded Depth

20.160 metres

型深

**Gross Tonnag** 

總噸位

65,131 tons

**Net Tonnage** 淨噸位

34,078 tons

Main Engine Type DIESEL

主機種類

**Engine Make and Model** 

主機名稱、型號

HYUNDAI 10 K 98MC-C

No. of Sets of Engine 1

主機台數

**Total Engine Power** 

主機總功率

57100 KW

**How Propelled** 

推進裝置

**PROPELLER** 

No. of Shafts

數

Form No. R\$/T1



# TRANSCRIPT OF REGISTER

船舶註册紀錄册抄本

PARTICULARS OF OWNER(S) / REPRESENTATIVE PERSON 船東 / 代表人資料

Total Interest in the Ship 船舶權益總額: 100 Percentage

Name of Representative Person and Address 代表人姓名 / 名稱及地址

FLEET MANAGEMENT LIMITED RM. 1603, 16/F, MASSMUTUAL TOWER, 38 GLOUCESTER ROAD, HONG KONG.

Name, Address, and Description of Owners 船東姓名 / 名稱、地址等資料

Percentage of Interest Held 椎益百分比數目

100.00

REGAL STONE LIMITED RM. 1603, 16/F, MASSMUTUAL TOWER, 3B GLOUCESTER ROAD, HONG KONG.

Place of Incorporation/Registration 公司成立/註册地路:

HONG KONG

DETAILS OF MORTGAGE 抵押資料

Mortgage Code 抵押编码: A

Property of Ship Affected 所涉及船舶財產權: 100 Percentage

Name of Mortgagor 抵押人姓名/名稱

**REGAL STONE LIMITED** 

Name and Address of Mortgagee 抵押推人姓名/名稱、地址

CITIBANK, N.A.

CITICORP CENTRE, 33 CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5LB. Place of incorporation/Registration

公司成立/註册地點

HONG KONG

Tel. No. 電話號碼

Fax No.

44(0) 20 7500 5877

傳真號碼 Telex No. 電傳號碼

PAGE 2/3 第2/3頁 O.N. HK-2012

MARINE DEPARTMENT HONG KONG, CHINA 中國香港海事處

Form No. RS/T1



# TRANSCRIPT OF REGISTER

船舶註册紀錄册抄本

#### DETAILS OF MORTGAGE 抵押資料

Date & Hour of Registry 註册日期、時間 24-OCT-2007 19:05

#### **Nature of Transaction**

抵押細節

MORTGAGE "A" DATED 24 OCTOBER 2007 TO SECURE OBLIGATION(S) PURSUANT TO: (1) LOAN AGREEMENT DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2007; (2) MASTER AGREEMENT DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2007 BETWEEN (1) THE MORTGAGEE, AS PARTY A AND (2) VIVID MIND LIMITED, CHARMING ENERGETIC LIMITED, DYNAMIC CONTINENTAL LIMITED, PERPETUAL JOY LIMITED AND THE MORTGAGOR, AS PARTY B; (3) MASTER AGREEMENT DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2007 BETWEEN (1) BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC, AS PARTY A, AND (2) VIVID MIND LIMITED, CHARMING ENERGETIC LIMITED, DYNAMIC CONTINENTAL LIMITED, PERPETUAL JOY LIMITED AND THE MORTGAGOR, AS PARTY B; (4) DEED OF COVENANT DATED 24 OCTOBER 2007; (6) AGENCY AND TRUST DEED DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2007; (6) MASTER AGREEMENT SECURITY DEED DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2007; (7) ACCOUNT SECURITY DEED DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2007; (8) NAUTILUS GUARANTEE DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2007; (9) SHARE PLEDGES DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 2007; (10) THE OTHER FINANCE DOCUMENTS AS DEFINED AND REFERRED TO IN CLAUSE 1.1 OF THE LOAN AGREEMENT MENTIONED ABOVE TO WHICH THE MORTGAGOR IS OR WILL BE A PARTY.

I hereby certify that the foregoing printed particulars are a true extract from the Register now in my charge, showing the descriptive particulars, registered ownership and details of mortgage of this vessel "COSCO BUSAN" - Official Number HK-2012, as at 30th October 2007.

茲證明上文所印資料為本人主營的船舶註冊紀錄冊的真確摘錄,以示裁至 2007 年 10 月 30 日為止,本船的一般資料、註冊所有權,以及抵押資料。

This Transcript of Register was issued on 29th February 2008 at 14:52.

本船舶註冊紀錄冊抄本發出日期、時間為 2008 年 2 月 29 日 14 時 52 分。

WU Kwong Shing (Assistant Registrar)
Registrar of Ships 船舶註冊官

#### SHIP MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

#### between

# CONTI 1. Container Schiffahrts-GmbH & Co. KG MS "CONTI CAIRO"

- hereinafter referred to as "the Shipping Company" -

and

NSB Niederelbe Schiffahrtsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG, Buxtehude - hereinafter referred to as "the Ship Manager" –

The following ship management agreement has been concluded between the above parties:

8

Following handover to the Shipping Company, the Ship Manager shall be appointed contract carrier for the motor vessel MS "CONTI CAIRO"

Construction no. 1381

belonging to the Hyundai Corporation, Seoul, South Korea and Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd., Ulsan, South Korea.

REDACTED

- 2. Termination of the ship management agreement shall not exclude the possibility of terminating the ship management agreement for good cause.
- 3. This agreement must be terminated in writing.
- 4. This agreement shall end with the sale or total loss of the vessel.

§9

1. In the event that individual provisions in this agreement become null and void or ineffective, this shall not affect the legal validity of the remainder of the agreement. The null and void or ineffective provisions shall be reinterpreted so as to achieve the original economic purpose intended.

Putzbrunn/Baxtehude, 6/25/2001

[signature]

[signature]

CONTI 1. Container Schiffahrts-GmbH & Co. KG MS "CONTI CAIRO"

NSB Niederelbe Schiffahrtsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG

### BEREEDERUNGSVERTRAG

#### zwischen der

# CONTI 1. Container Schiffahrts-GmbH & Co. KG MS "CONTI CAIRO"

- nachstehend Reederei genannt -

#### und der

NSB Niederelbe Schiffahrtsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG, Buxtehude
- nachstehend Bereederer genannt -

wird folgender Bereederungsvertrag geschlossen:

§ 1

Der Bereederer wird ab Ablieferung an die Reederei zum Vertragsreeder für das Motorschiff MS " CONTI CAIRO"

Bau-Nr. 1381

der Hyundai Corporation, Seoul, Südkorea, und der Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd., Ulsan, Südkorea, bestellt.

§ 8

- 2. Eine Kündigung des Bereederungsvertrages aus wichtigem Grunde wird hierdurch nicht ausgeschlossen.
- 3. Jede Kündigung bedarf der schriftlichen Form.
- 4. Dieser Vertrag endet mit Verkauf oder Totalverlust des Schiffes.

§ 9

1. Sollten einzelne Bestimmungen dieses Vertrages nichtig sein oder unwirksam werden, so soll dies die Rechtswirksamkeit des übrigen Vertragsinhaltes nicht berühren. Die nichtigen oder unwirksamen Bestimmungen sind so umzudeuten, dass der mit ihnen beabsichtigte wirtschaftliche Zweck erreicht wird.

Putzbrunn/Buxtehude, den 25.06.2001

. Container Schiffahrts-GmbH & Co. KG

MS "CONTI CAIRO"

NSB Niederelbe Schiffahrtsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG



ALBANY

**AMSTERDAM** 

ATLANTA

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BARCELONA

City of New York, State of New York, County of New York

BOSTON

BRUSSELS

CHARLOTTE

CHICAGO

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DENVER

DUBLIN

FRANKFURT

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RESEARCH

TRIANGLE PARK

SAN DIEGO

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN JOSE

SEATTLE

SINGAPORE

STOCKHOLM

SYDNEY

TOKYO

TORONTO

VANCOUVER

WASHINGTON, DC

I, Katharine Perekslis, hereby certify that the document "Ship Management Agreement" is, to the best of my knowledge "and belief, a true and accurate translation from German into English.

Sworn to before me this 3rd day of March, 2008

Pamela Boyle Notary Public, State of New York No. 01BO6181278

Qualified in NEW YORK County Commission Expires Jan 28, 20

Stamp, Notary Public

. 03/05/2008 13:22 TEL 4159817729

KEESAL, YOUNG&LOGAN

Ø 001

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO DESTINATION TEL # 1138 5682556

DESTINATION ID

ST. TIME TIME USE PAGES SENT

RESULT

03/05 13:18

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400 OCEANGATE
P.O. BOX 1730
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90801-1730
(562) 436-2000
FAX: (562) 436-7416

SFATTLE OFFICE SUITE 1815 1301 FIFTH AVENUE SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101 (206) 622-3790 FAX: (206) 343-9529 LAW OFFICES

KEESAL, YOUNG & LOGAN A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION SUITE 1500 FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 (415) 398-6000 FAX: (415) 981-0136 Anchorage office Suite 650 1029 West 3<sup>RD</sup> Avenue Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1954 (907) 279-9696 FAX: (907) 279-4239

HONG KONG OFFICE
1603 THE CENTRE MARK
287 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL
HONG KONG
(852) 2844-1718
FAX: (852) 2541-6189

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**DATE:** March 5, 2008

To:

William M. Audet, Esq. and

Michael McShane, Esq.

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Firm:

Audet & Partners, LLP

Fax:

(415) 568-2556

Main No.:

(415) 982-1776

E-mail:

waudet@audetlaw.com

From:

Julie L. Taylor, Esq.

Re:

Chelsea, LLC, et al. v. Regal Stone, Ltd., et al.

USDC Case No. C-07-5800-SC

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